

BUNIAS ERUCAGO IN VIRGINIA. — The toothed pod mustard, *Bunias erucago*, L. (Cruciferae) which has not been recorded in North America since 1877 has been collected in May 1957 and 1959 in an isolated field in Prince Edward County of the central Virginia Piedmont. Hegi (Illustrierte Flora von Mittel-Europa 4:472-475) reports it as a weed in central Europe, seed of which often appears as an adulterant in seed of sainfoil, *Onobrychis sativa* Scop. Specimens in fruit were sent in by E. F. Striplin, Agricultural Agent for Prince Edward County (now retired) in May 1957. It was readily determined as belonging to the genus *Bunias*. Current manuals described only *B. orientalis*, L. with which the specimen at hand did not agree.

The fruit characteristics of the two species are very distinctive. *B. erucago* has 3 to 4 ridges of thin flat teeth. In a sense the fruit may be said to be 4 winged. *B. orientalis* is not so ridged, but verrucose.

Specimens were sent to the late Dr. S. F. Blake and to R. C. Rollins (Rollins was away), Blake identified the specimen as *B. erucago*, L. and later Rollins concurred and stated that the only N. A. specimen in the Gray Herbarium is that of I. C. Martindale from the Centennial Exposition Grounds, Philadelphia in June 1877.

*Bunias* is placed by Gleason in the tribe Euclideae of the family Cruciferae. The characteristics of *B. erucago* are:

Plant biennial, 40 cm or more high, freely branching; stems pubescent below with simple or branched hairs some of which may be purplish; plant abundantly glandular with short stalked glands; lower leaves large, pinnately lobed, sometimes lyrate, upper linear with toothed margins; petals yellow, spatulate; fruit bur-like 0.8-1 cm long, indurate, indehiscent, 3-4 celled with indurate septa, slender pointed by firm persistent style, surface armed with 4 lines of broad thin teeth or "4 winged"; flowers in early May. Specimens have been deposited in the Gray and National Herbaria. — A. B. MASSEY, — VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE RESEARCH UNIT.